



# UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE

## FEDERALISM COMMISSION

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Utah State Senate  
Utah House of Representatives

June 13, 2019

Speaker Brad R. Wilson, Chair  
President J. Stuart Adams, Chair  
Legislative Management Committee  
State Capital Complex  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Re: Federalism Commission

Dear Speaker Wilson and President Adams:

During the 2017 General Session, the Legislature passed H.C.R. 1, recognizing the state's commitment to remaining a public lands state and encouraging the pursuit of action supporting the retention and optimal management of public lands within the state. H.C.R. 1 also recognized the failure of the federal government to obtain meaningful state and local input into the management of federally-managed public lands within the state. The resulting mismanagement of Utah's federally-managed public lands has jeopardized Utah's communities, forests, wildlife, economies, recreational opportunities, and air quality.

The Federalism Commission ("Commission") is working to address the concerns expressed in H.C.R. 1. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act requires the Secretary of the Interior to develop land use plans for federally-controlled public lands. The Secretary's land use plans must be "consistent with State and local plans to the maximum extent [the Secretary] finds consistent with Federal Law and the purposes of [FLMPA]." However, the state of Utah has not developed legislatively approved land use plans for the state's federally-controlled public lands. Doing so would give the state greater and more appropriate control over the land use plans used to manage federally-controlled public land in the state.

The Commission proposes issuing a request for proposals ("RFP") to hire a consultant to develop land use plans for federally-controlled public lands in the state that are of heightened concern and submitting the plans to the Legislature for approval. The Commission has identified four areas of heightened concern in the state: Bears Ears National Monument, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, public lands in Emery County, and certain public lands in the Central Wasatch Range.

The purpose of this letter is to request Legislative Management Committee approval for the issuance of an RFP, as explained above, and for proceeding with all appropriate steps in the procurement process under the Utah Procurement Code and applicable legislative rules and policy.

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Specifically, we are asking the Legislative Management Committee:

- to assign the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to finalize an RFP;
- to authorize the Commission or its chairs to give final approval of the RFP;
- to approve the Commission's issuance of an RFP for a consultant;
- to approve the Commission or its chairs to take all administrative actions and make all administrative decisions involved in the procurement process, including:
  - receiving evaluation information on proposals submitted in response to the RFP;
  - allowing a vendor to correct an immaterial error in a proposal or to require a vendor to clarify information in a proposal, if a correction or clarification becomes necessary;
  - authorizing the Commission's evaluation committee to conduct interviews with or attend presentations by those who have submitted proposals for the consulting contract; and
  - making a determination of a contract award to a consultant pursuant to the RFP.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact either of us.

Sincerely,



Lincoln Fillmore, Senate Co-Chair  
Federalism Commission



Keven J. Stratton, House Co-Chair  
Federalism Commission

